(a) to (c) The Office of the functional head of the Marketing Division of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) is located in the Company's Corporate Office at New Delhi. The Divisional Marketing Office of HFC, which caters to the marketing needs of the Company in the eastern region, is located at Calcutta.

The Regional Marketing Offices of Paradeep Phosphates Limited (PPL) at Bhubneshwar, Patna and Calcutta handle the Company's marketing operations in the eastern region. Since about 80% of the Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) produced by PPL is marketed in the northern, western and southern States of the country, the Marketing Coordination Office of PPL has been located at New Delhi for effective control and coordination.

In addition to the sales functions, the Marketing Offices of HFC and PPL located at New Delhi interface with various agencies, including the Departments/ Ministeries of the Government, to ensure effective supply and distribution of fertilizers.

The marketing set-ups of the public sector undertaking in the fertilizer sector are structured in accordance with their marketing needs. There is no proposal to relocate the New Delhi based marketing office of HFC and PPL.

**भावनगर-अहमदाबाद और जूनागढ़-मेहसाना रेलवे लाइन का गेज परिवर्तन**

1374. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी सोलंकी:**

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान भावनगर-अहमदाबाद और जूनागढ़-मेहसाना के बीच मीटर-गेज लाइन को ब्राॅड-गेज में बदलने का विचार रखती है।

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) संसाधनों की तंगी।

**Schools for Meghalaya**

1375. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) where it is a fact that three hundred and seven villages in Meghalaya are schoolless;

(b) whether Government propose to set-up lower primary schools in these villages during the current financial year;

(c) whether Government are proposing to initiate operation Block Board Scheme in Meghalaya; and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) The responsibility for opening of new primary school rests with the State Governments which decide the number of new schools to be opened on a year to year basis, depending upon the norms evolved for the pruposoe and resources available with them.

(c) and (d) The Operation Blackbaord Scheme is already being implemented in the State of Meghalaya. The achievement of the State under the Scheme include the following:-

(i) 3141 primary schools in the State have been provided teaching learning materials at a cost of 378.77 lakhs.

(ii) 1969 posts of additional teachers have been sanctioned for single teacher primary schools.

(iii) 733 upper primary schools have been sanctioned teaching learning equipment at a cost of Rs. 329.58 lakhs.